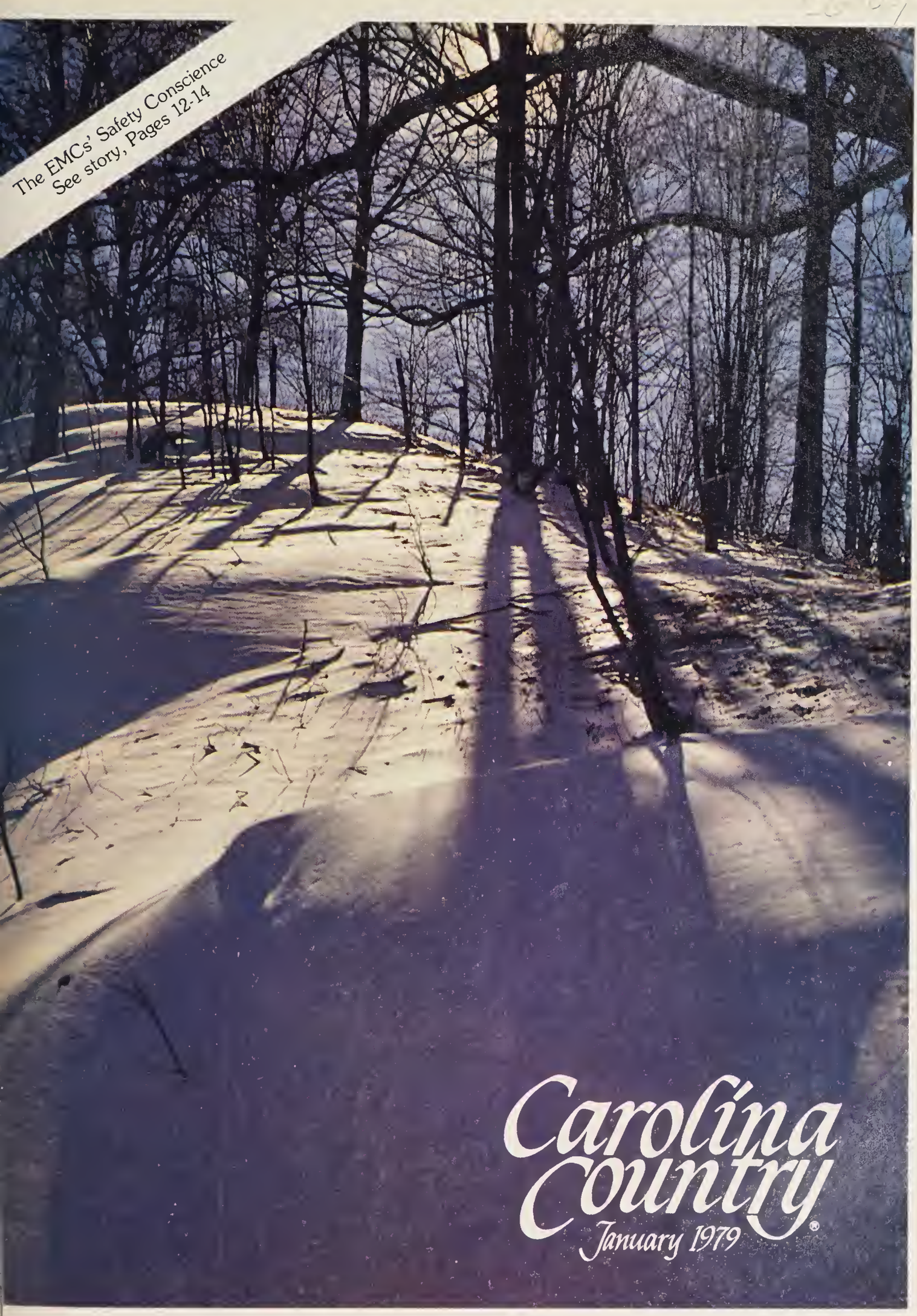

Carolina Country

January 1979

On Puzzlements And Preachin'

"It is a puzzlement!" That exclamation in song, from the lips of the King of Siam in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The King and I," could easily have been the theme for the Dec. 1 White House briefing for rural electric and rural development leaders from across the country.

It would certainly have been appropriate accompaniment as the 250 guests assembled in the East Room for the session involving President Carter, Vice President Mondale, Cabinet members and other top administration officials.

The event itself was enough to set heads a-scratching at the "puzzlement" of it all.

It was a first — for no previous administration had ever arranged for such a gathering in such a setting in the 40-year history of the rural electric program. And the White House was making the most of it, bringing virtually all of its top administrators to the podium for a review of policies in their respective areas of responsibility, and scheduling a reception for the group in the elegant State Dining Room following the briefing.

The White House staff, sparked by presidential aide Jack Watson, was obviously pulling out all the stops for the event.

It was only natural that most of those on the guest list found themselves pondering the invitation carefully for some hint of the day's hidden agenda.

One member of the audience, still seeking such a hint, spoke for

See related story, Pages 10-11

most of the group when he rose midway through the proceedings to air his concern.

Editorials

Identifying himself as a director for a Virginia electric cooperative, he said he was an ex-Methodist minister whose son had often traveled with him to the churches on the circuit he served. Once, he said, his son had asked him if what he said from the various pulpits "was the truth or just preachin'."

"Now, I'll ask the same question," he said. "Are you telling the truth or is it just preachin'?"

The reassurances of those on the podium may have quietened the former minister's uneasiness, but others continued to question the administration's underlying motives — even as they left the White House.

"Man can live without air for a few minutes, without water for about two weeks, without food for about two months — and without a new thought for years on end."

—Kent Ruth

"I think it was the kick-off for th 1980 campaign," said one veterar co-op manager.

"I think we've gotten some goo news — the fact that the loa program will not be cut — but keep expecting that there's goin to be some bad news to go with i and we just haven't heard tha yet," said another guest.

"It's all been quite impressive," said a third guest. "And I'm no sure we can assess it until we ca get back home and do som Monday morning quarterbackin on it."

The "Monday morning" i question has come and gone — without removing the doubt about the briefing.

Maybe it was, as th administration claimed, simply a opportunity for open communi cations between the government' leaders and the leaders of rura America. Maybe there were political undertones that have ye to be clearly defined.

In any case, the session wa significant in that government' highest officials were brough together to explain and interpre their policies for representatives o rural electric co-ops and rura development organizations.

And they've never before beer considered worthy of such treatment — even for a White House "puzzlement" that could have been "just preachin'." □

Carolina Country

Read Monthly in More Than 275,000 Homes
Vol. 11 No. 1 January 1979

Official Publication
North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc.
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Carolina Country (formerly *The Carolina Farmer*) is published monthly by North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc. Second class postage paid at Richmond, Va. 23219. Editorial Offices, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. *Carolina Country* is a registered trademark of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation. Postmaster send form 3579 to P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. EMC group subscriptions, $1.10 a year, individual $1.50. Address all mail to *Carolina Country*, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

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COVER — This peaceful winter scene was photographed by Don Massey of Asheville. Originally appearing in *Wildlife in North Carolina*, the photo was made in the Betsy's Gap area of Haywood County. Our thanks to *Wildlife in North Carolina* for allowing us to use the color separations of the photo for our cover.

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NC-1

rural electric Notebook

FOR THE RECORD

One of Carolina Country's readers wrote to ask us about an inconsistency in the story in the magazine's December issue on the cost of power plants. The story said Duke Power Company's Belews Creek generating plant, which cost $357 million when it was completed in 1975, would have cost about 50 percent more if it had been completed in 1978. But the figure for that estimated cost was listed as $735 million. The dollar value is correct, but it amounts to 105 percent more than the plant's actual cost.

THE COST OF REGULATION

The hidden cost of government regulation is to blame for soaring electric bills, a Colorado rural electric spokesman told the Consumer Subcommittee of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee in a recent hearing.

John J. Bugas, president of the Colorado-Ute Electric Association, said that "most, if not all" of the increases in rates paid by his co-op's consumers in the past five years have been due to the cost of compliance with government regulations.

"It is important that our consumers, and the American people as a whole, completely understand the magnitude of such costs since they are the ones who ultimately must foot the bill," said Bugas. He added that environmental compliance costs alone account for 35 percent of the co-op's annual cost of generating power.

Another co-op manager who appeared before the subcommittee, J.R. Miller of Kentucky's Green River Electric Cooperative, pointed out that 1.6 mills of the co-op's 20.24-mill charge for power "is directly attributed to federal statutes and regulatory intepretation."

Environmental regulations resulting in costs to the consuming public, he said, "were adopted without concern for costs to the rate payer. Since these costs are part of the process of borrowing capital, the expense becomes part of the rate base, for which each consumer pays a proportionate share."

ENERGY CONSERVATION RESEARCH

Rural electric cooperatives across the country are actively engaged in energy conservation research projects, both on their own and through participation in the industry-wide Electric Power Research Institute.

One successful project of that organization has involved development of a heat pump water heater which could save up to 6,700 kilowatt hours each year for the average homeowner. That would translate into a savings of about 600 gallons of oil -- more than enough to run the average car for a full year. The Department of Energy is carrying the concept for the device through to commercial application and, as a result at least 100 of them will be field-tested by co-ops and other utilities next spring.

Special Announcement

to all North Carolina Rural Electric consumer members and their families

Now... North Carolina RE Consumer Members of all ages qualify—**you cannot be turned down** for this RE Group Hospitalization Supplement. This is the only direct-to-you Group Plan officially recommended and endorsed by your National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

We're Concerned

Over the last few years, the cost of medical care has almost doubled according to American Hospital Association's reports. As a matter of fact, the average per patient cost to a community hospital is now more than $180 A DAY! Most group and individual hospitalization plans are not designed to cover the full hospital bill... even Medicare recently announced another increase in the amount of its deductible... the amount Medicare patients must pay out of their own pocket.

The Largest Cause of Personal Bankruptcy

Vice President Mondale has stated that hospital bills "are the single largest cause of personal bankruptcy in the United States." When you consider what a single day in the hospital costs, it's easy to see why.

For RE Consumer Members Only

Problems like these caused your National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) to arrange its own insurance programs for rural electric cooperative employees and members (ELCO® Programs). First your National Rural Electric Cooperative Association set out to find a national insurance company with an impeccable reputation. Next, they arranged a supplemental hospitalization plan that would do the best job possible for all RE consumer members and their families. And finally, NRECA set up their own service center for ELCO® Programs to help assure RE consumer members prompt, courteous service and prompt claims payment. This RE Group Hospitalization Supplement, underwritten by the highly respected Continental American Life Insurance Company, is the result.

Don't Be Misled by Look-Alikes

Some insurance ads try to give you the impression they are official RE plans, sponsored by your National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Only those programs that bear the ELCO® or RE® trademarks are officially endorsed by your National Association. These trademarks are your guarantee of service and quality.

You Cannot Be Turned Down

This RE group plan is available to RE members in most states. Every member who enrolls will be accepted regardless of age or occupation. However, Continental American must limit coverage in force under all policies of this type with their company to one per member.

Your Own RE Consumer Service Center

Your National Association's Service Center for ELCO® Programs will provide RE consumers with the best possible service. If you have questions about your protection benefits available, or changes to your plan, just call the NRECA Service Center. The special RE consumer telephone number is (919) 832-7597... call COLLECT any weekday and ask for Bill Plunket. He'll be glad to help you.

Free Group Hospitalization Planning Kit

To get your free Group Hospitalization Planning Kit, just fill out the coupon on this page and drop it in the mail. The Kit will be mailed to you and will fully explain what is covered, what is not covered, costs and terms of renewability. There is no obligation and no one will call on you. So please act now.

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IMPORTANT: Don't Be Misled By Look-Alikes. This is the only RE Members Group Hospital Cash Plan officially endorsed by NRECA.

Mail Your Coupon Today.

A Buncombe County dairying family that practices conservation measures such as contour planting and grassed waterways has been named "Conservation Farm Family of the Year" for 1978 by the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The award was presented to John and Mary Nesbitt and their five children at the association's 36th annual meeting in Raleigh.

The Nesbitt family, which practices conservation measures on their own land and on property they lease, was picked over more than 100 others by a panel of judges. Nesbitt recently took over as supervisor of the Buncombe Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

Harold and Patsy Lineberger and their three children of Cleveland County came in second in the judging. The Linebergers operate "pick-your-own" farm featurin strawberries, peaches and grape They practice various conservatio measures including grasslan management, grassed waterwa and terraces. Lineberger is former power use advisor an newsletter editor for Rutherfor EMC, Forest City. He left the co-o about a year ago to devote full tim to farming.

Honors . . . . . And More Honors

Sonia Nash Wingate

Gary Griffin Marshville

Beth Ramsey Wingate

Angie Coffey Waxhaw

Terri Lathan Monroe

Cathy Braswell Monroe

Judy Peeler Lexington

Patsey Mosele Garysburg

Eight North Carolina youngsters, six of them from Union County, brought back scholarships of $1,000 each last month from the 57th National 4-H Congress held in Chicago.

It is the second straight year that eight youngsters from the state have been singled out at the five-day conference for national recognition for their accomplishments in 4-H programs and activities, leadership development and personal or civic work.

The congress was attended by more than 1,700 youth delegates from all over the country. The National 4-H Council and Cooperative Extension Service awarded scholarships ranging from $400 to $1,000 to 275 delegates. The total amount awarded amounted to more than $250,000.

National 4-H Awards Go To Eight Tar Heels

- Sonia Nash, 16, of Wingate in Union County, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edsel D. Nash. She conducted classes for the elderly on how to make TV dinners from leftover food and won in the food conservation and safety program sponsored by the Reynolds Metals Company.
- Gary Griffin, 16, of Marshville in Union County, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Griffin. He designed a "talking bicycle" with a tape recorder that spouts safety messages and won in the bicycle program sponsored by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.
- Beth Ramsey, 16, of Wingate in Union County, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Ramsey. She worked with the elderly on saving money on food and drugs and won in the consumer education program sponsored by Montgomery Ward Co.
- Angie Coffey, 15, of Waxhaw Union County, the daughter of M and Mrs. Rufus H. Coffey. Sh conducted classes for expectar mothers and low-income childre stressing the importance of dairy fooc in the diet and won in the dairy fooc program sponsored by the Carnatic Co.
- Terri Lathan, 17, of Monroe Union County, the daughter of M and Mrs. Horace Lathan Jr. She taugl mentally retarded children how make bread on a television show ar won in the bread program sponsore by Standard Brands Inc.
- Cathy Braswell, 18 of Monroe Union County, the daughter of M and Mrs. Jack L. Braswell. She mac special clothing for the physical handicapped and won in th achievement program sponsored the Ford Motor Co. Fund.
- Judy Peeler, 18, of Lexington Davidson County, the daughter Mrs. Barbara Peeler. She helpe organize the state's first 4-H club f the handicapped and won in th leadership program sponsored Readers Digest magazine.
- Patsey Moseley, 19, of Garysbu in Northampton County, the daught of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Moseley. Sh makes her own clothing and sews f others and won in the clothi program sponsored by Coats & Cla Inc. □

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Victor B. Lynn of Raleigh, Wake County extension chairman, was presented with the "Distinguished Service Award" for what the judges called "outstanding leadership and initiative in soil and water conservation" in his profession.

Other winners are: **Watershed Man of the Year** — Robert G. Little, chairman of the Pitt County SWCD, for outstanding service toward assuring success of the Chicod Creek Watershed Project.

Watershed of the Year — Ahoskie Creek Watershed Project in Hertford and Northampton Counties. The judges called it "one of the best maintained and most effective P.L. 566 watershed projects in North Carolina."

President's Award — David C. Holland Jr., in recognition of work done for the state association of SWCD's during the past year.

N.C. Environmental Conservation Teacher — Beverly L. Foster, a sixth grade teacher at North Cove Elementary School in McDowell County, for "motivating" her students to protect the environment and helping them study conservation and the environment.

Statewide Environmental Education District Award — Onslow SWCD for its practice of providing books to schools, assisting with outdoor classroom work and conducting environmental beach clinics and special school programs.

Outstanding District Secretary of the Year — Jean VanHook of Nashville for extra services beyond the normal duties of her position and for valuable assistance to the statewide association.

Carolina Conservationist Award — George B. Watson of Nash County and William S. Wright of Greensboro. Watson operates a seed farm and is noted for conservation practices on his land. Wright is Sediment Control Supervisor for the City of Greensboro. He was cited for helping builders solve "a vast array of erosion problems." □

Awards Presented By The N. C. Association Of Soil And Water Conservation Districts

Outstanding Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Employee — Garland L. Still Jr., of Gastonia, district conservationist with the SCS-USDA, for outstanding contributions to the state association of SWCD's. He helped the Gaston district win the national title in environmental education this year.

Ruth D. Cherry of Rt. 2, Rocky Mount, has been honored by Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national fraternity of Agricultural Extension Service employees for her years of voluntary service to extension.

She received the fraternity's National Friend of Extension Award at the organization's annual meeting in St. Louis. She is the third North Carolinian to receive the honor since it was established in 1935. Other recipients were Dr. T. Caldwell, former chancellor of N. C. State University, in 1962, and Norfleet Sugg of Pinetops, in 1976.

Edgecombe Woman Cited By Fraternity

Mrs. Cherry, who was elected as the first woman member of the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners in 1974, has been active in the Extension Homemaker program for many years. She has also served as 4-H adult leader and as vice president of the state 4-H Development Fund.

For the past several years, she has been state chairman of Farm Bureau Women and is also a member of the Farm Bureau's State Board of Directors.

Long active in the women's committee of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro, Mrs. Cherry serves on the State EMC Women's Advisory Committee. She was chairman of that committee from 1967 to 1972.

People

Dr. Chester D. (Chet) Black has been promoted from assistant director to associate director of the North Carolina Agricultural extension Service. He succeeds **Dr. T. C. Blalock**, who was promoted from associate director to director after the retirement of **George Hyatt Jr.** Black served in various extension posts in Missouri before coming to North Carolina in 1970 as state 4-H leader. For the past three years, he has served as assistant director in charge of county operations.

Ray Wilkinson, farm editor for WRAL-TV, Raleigh, has been elected vice-president of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters. He was named to the post during the organization's recent annual meeting in Kansas City.

Five North Carolina home economics extension agents have been given Distinguished Service Awards during the national meeting of Extension Home Economists in Omaha. They are **Dorothy Boone** of Bladen County; **Jessie Cabe** of Macon County, **Sarah Jones** of Wayne County, **Margaret Wade** of Nash County and **Frances Ward** of Chowan County.

Joe Williams of Washington, president of Tobacco Associates, Inc., and **Dr. Hugh Kiger** of Raleigh, executive vice president of the Leaf Tobacco Exporters Association and the Tobacco Association of the U.S., were honored in Raleigh recently for outstanding service to the tobacco industry. The Washington-based organization of tobacco growers, promotes export markets for U.S. flue-cured leaf. The Raleigh-based associations promote the sale of American grown tobacco in this country and overseas. □

Smithsonian Learn-In:

We're Doing Something New For EMC Youths!

Mention the Smithsonian Institution, and what automatically comes to mind? The image of a dusty museum full of brontosaurus bones in distant Washington, D.C.

That image will be dispelled for 45 Tar Heel rural youths who are selected to participate in a series of week-long special interest symposia at the Smithsonian Institution sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives in conjunction with the Smithsonian.

Three seminars for academically-superior high school juniors and seniors (classes of 1980 and 1981) are planned for this year, with the first scheduled for April and two others slated for the fall.

The program was made possible with the aid of an $18,000 grant to N.C.AEC from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation. The association will provide in-kind contributions to match the Reynolds grant.

Each of the three seminars will involve an expense-paid residence in Washington during which the selected students will receive intensive, college-level instruction by Smithsonian Institution scientists and artisans. These instructors will be assisted by members of federal departments and bureaus, members of Congress and their staffs, professional organizations, universities and performing arts organizations in the Washington area. As a result, the program will offer selected rural high school students a unique opportunity to work with and learn from some of the nation's foremost scholars.

The three symposia scheduled are entitled, "The Planet Earth," "Man and the Primates" and "The Quest for Beauty."

"The Planet Earth" will deal with the various dimensions of the physical environment, and will feature discussions that range from the elements that form earth and the atmosphere to the study of the sun, from the history of aviation to the potential for increasing knowledge through space travel. Energy will be a major focus of the seminar — from sources of energy to legislation and international policies affecting them. Emphasis will be given in the areas of chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology, minerology, meteorology, oceanography and engineering.

"Man and the Primates" is a seminar that will allow students to investigate, research, observe and analyze primate behavior with regard to their own behavior. Main areas of emphasis will include zoology, primatology, biology, anthropology, sociology and psychology.

"The Quest for Beauty" concerns the theory that all human civilizations show some concern with beauty in all of its manifestations. Popular culture – the painting of vans, television commercials — can also play an important role in the quest for beauty. Differences in taste according to individuals, classes and entire cultures will also be studied. In examining the aesthetics of human life, student studies will involve architecture, art, music, film, mathematics, physics and engineering.

—*June Brotherton*

Interested in applying? To be eligible to compete for a spot in one of the symposia listed, students must meet the criteria listed below:

1. Gifted high school students who are members of the classes of 1980, 1981.
2. Scholastic average of 90 or above.
3. Exceptional talent and interest in the disciplines listed for a particular seminar.
4. Must demonstrate the qualities of leadership, maturity and responsibility.
5. Applicant's family must be a member of a rural electric cooperative.

If a student meets the above criteria, he/she can apply for the symposia by writing for an application form to: SYMPOSIA, N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh NC 27611.

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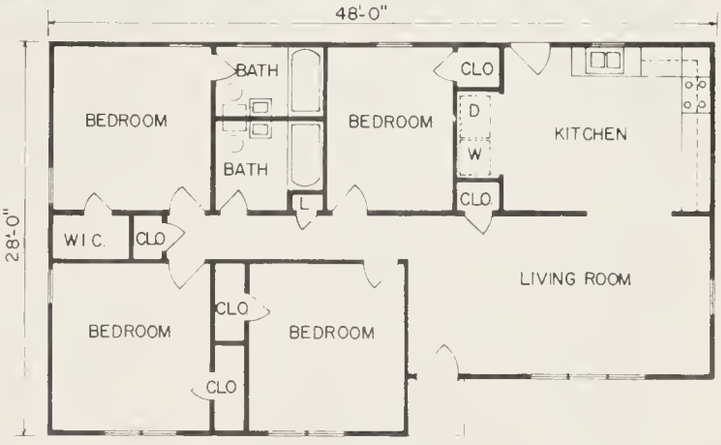

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A White House Briefing

President Carter addresses White House briefing session. Behind him, left to right, are Doug Cos administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall and Graci Olivarez, director, Community Services Administrator.

The nation's two highest elected officials offered remarks which served as verbal "bookends" for a four-hour White House briefing Dec. 1 featuring policy statements by Cabinet members and agency heads before about 250 rural electric and rural development leaders from across the country.

In opening the session, President Carter drew applause when he pledged his administration's support for the rural electric program.

"There will be no proposals to eliminate the REA loan program," he said. "And, there will be no proposals made to remove REA from the Department of Agriculture."

Rumors had circulated that both these steps might be taken by the Carter administration.

"Whenever you have a concern about a rumor like these, I wish you would come directly to see me. . . (so) we can put a stop to that rumor once and for all.

"None of us have any inclination to mislead you . . .and when there is concern that is legitimate, I have no trepidation about letting you know what we're considering."

He said he wanted to be "partners" with the rural leaders because of the common background they share with him, "having started life in a different world, sometimes with severe restraints on the quality of our own outlook."

Noting his own background and his father's role as a director of an electric cooperative, he said he and his administration feel an "almost complete compatability with the purposes of the rural electrics today," although there may at times be differences of opinion involving technique, timing or poor communication.

The purpose of the briefing, he pointed out, was to strengthen the compatability by helping the leaders "understand what our desires are, what our programs are, what our time schedules are and what our budget restraints are. . . (so) it'll be easier for you to cooperate with us in achieving common ideals and goals."

Referring to the energy bill he'd signed earlier, President Carter described it as "extremely complicated" legislation which resulted from "tough negotiations by a wide range of interest groups."

He called on the group to help him control inflation, as he begins to place "severe budget constraints on all government programs as a means of cutting th budget deficit."

The president also announce plans for new rural developme initiatives in water and sew programs. The program involves streamlining of the applicatio procedures, establishing a sing appication form that would suffi for all 16 federal agencies th oversee such projects.

In closing the briefing, Vi President Mondale recalled th coming of rural electric pow lines to his native Minnesota. meant, he said, "farmers and the families could begin to remo some of the unnecessary burde that so crushed family life and th darkness of night could b removed and rural America coul begin to live like the rest America."

He said the rural electr program has succeeded in a wa that "almost exceeded ou expectations—it's one of th greatest success stories in th history of the federal gover ment."

A Bum Rap On Nuclear

President Carter says his administration has taken a bum rap on nuclear powe often being accused of maintaining an anti-nuclear policy.

"We do not," he said, addressing rural electric leaders at the White House

"I have a strong commitment to the use of nuclear power. It should obviously l produced in a way that is safe and we've done this in our country. It should l economically feasible and we are constantly exploring ways to make it mo efficient."

Yet, in the years ahead, "the challenge that faces us is in many ways more difficult and challenging and more crucial than even the success story of which we're so proud. In these next years, we must increase production of abundant domestic fuels and cut down on waste. We must use those fuels that are more plentiful, more permanent. And the REAs are in the forefront of every one of those efforts."

He added that the president and he "are profoundly, almost religiously committed to the success of the rural electric program. . . The REA movement has shown the nation the way in the past and we're looking for you to show us the way again."

Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland announced that the Office of Management and Budget-USDA study of REA, which had drawn criticism from national rural electric leaders as less than objective, has been shelved.

He said the study had been useful in that it pointed out the dimensions of capital demands by the nation's electric co-ops.

"The present program is working well," he said. "You have the support of the administration for your program. Therefore, I will not recommend to the Congress any changes in your financing program . . . It is time to concentrate on the challenge of a new era of energy development."

REA Administrator Bob Feragen challenged the rural electric leaders to lead the nation in preparing for that era.

"To meet the needs of the next generation and to provide it electric power at as reasonable a cost as possible will require all the imagination, skill and determination that can be mustered in every headquarters of every one of our borrowers."

Other speakers during the briefing included HUD Secretary Patricia Harris, Labor Secretary Ray Marshall, Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus, Deputy Energy Secretary John O'Leary, OMB Associate Director Eliot Cutler, EPA Administrator Douglas Costle and Asst. Commerce Secretary Robert Hall.

—Owen Bishop

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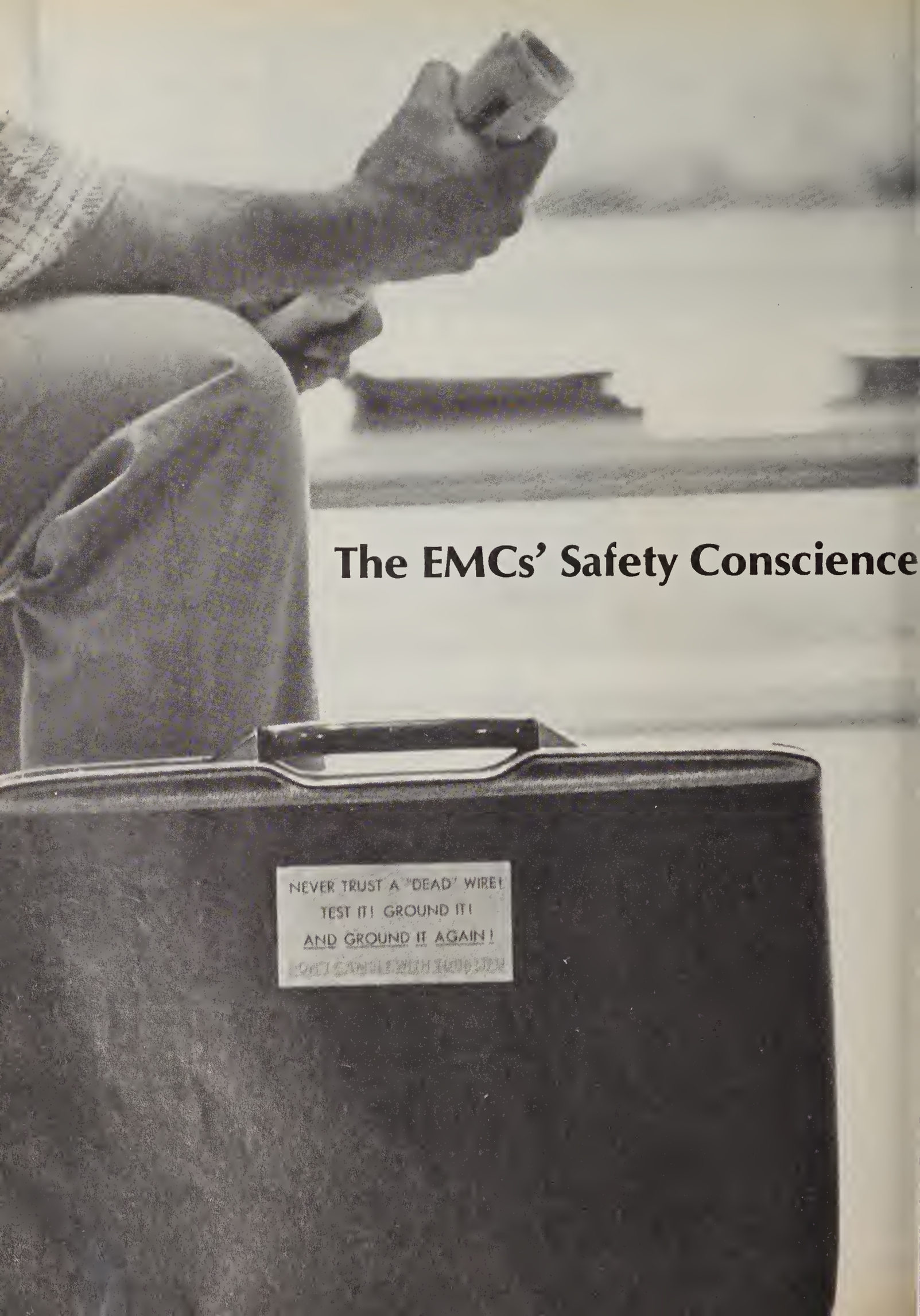


The EMCs' Safety Conscience

Safety specialists Art Willis (left) and John Brothers go over safety checklist during recent safety inspection.

The line crew hadn't taken the time to ground the broken line — it was a primary and hundreds of homes were without power because of the break.

The veteran lineman realized the line should be grounded as he reached the top of the pole. He felt for his safety gloves — which would put a layer of protection between him and 7,200 volts of electricity should the line turn out to be hot. They were gone — back in the truck, forgotten in the rush.

He took a chance and reached for the line anyway.....

"That's one of the most dangerous things a person can do," remarked safety specialist Art Willis. "If that line was hot, the lineman would be dead."

Willis was observing as some linemen acted out a dramatization, staged before the lens of a photographer who captured the scene on film for use in an audio-visual presentation on safety. Willis, who is director of job training and safety for the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, would later use it in teaching Electric Membership Corporation lineman the importance of constant vigilance in dealing with power lines.

The work demonstrates how far EMCs' employee safety progrm has evolved in recent years.In years gone by, it may have consisted of dusty first aid kits and a heavy reliance on good fortune. But no more.

Current accident-prevention activities among North Carolina's EMCs include:

- An on-going education program in which safety specialists travel across the state to meet regularly with employees at each EMC for safety training.
- Appointment of an employee as a part-time safety coordinator at each EMC to oversee accident-prevention efforts.
- Establishment of an employee safety committee in most EMCs to assist the coordinator in promoting safety practices.
- A systematic, on-site inspection of each EMC's facilities and equipment to identify and eliminate hazardous conditions.
- A stiff accreditation program which offers certification to those co-ops which meet prescribed standards for safety precautions.

As you might imagine, all this requires a much larger financial commitment on the part of the EMCs than was necessary when safety was a wing-and-a-prayer affair. Why are co-ops willing to make such a commitment?

"It's absolutely essential to protect those EMC employees who put their lives in jeopardy every day by working with deadly high voltage power lines," said James M. Hubbard, executive vice president of the EMC's statewide organization. "That's truly hazardous duty and the co-ops must do everything they can to reduce that hazard as much as possible."

If the proper precautions are taken, the hazard can be "managed," according to Willis.

"Safety is a science now and is becoming more and more a rigid discipline," he said.

As a result, those EMC workmen who have hazardous jobs are given the best safety equipment available to work with in handling those jobs, Willis said.

(Continued on Page 14)

Leading the Nation in Co-op Safety

EMC safety programs across North Carolina are going quite well.

Already 19 of the state's 28 cooperatives have been certified under National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's safety accreditation program. That's more than any other state in the nation.

"Only a handful of other states even come close," Willis pointed out. "Our highest priority now is to get the remaining systems accredited — and they're in varying degrees of readiness."

Achieving that distinction is no small accomplishment, he added.

"To obtain it, an EMC must demonstrate to NRECA inspectors that it has a top notch on-going safety program that does what it is supposed to do. That means co-op leaders must be actively involved in promoting safety consciousness as well as furnishing workmen with up-to-date safety equipment and training."

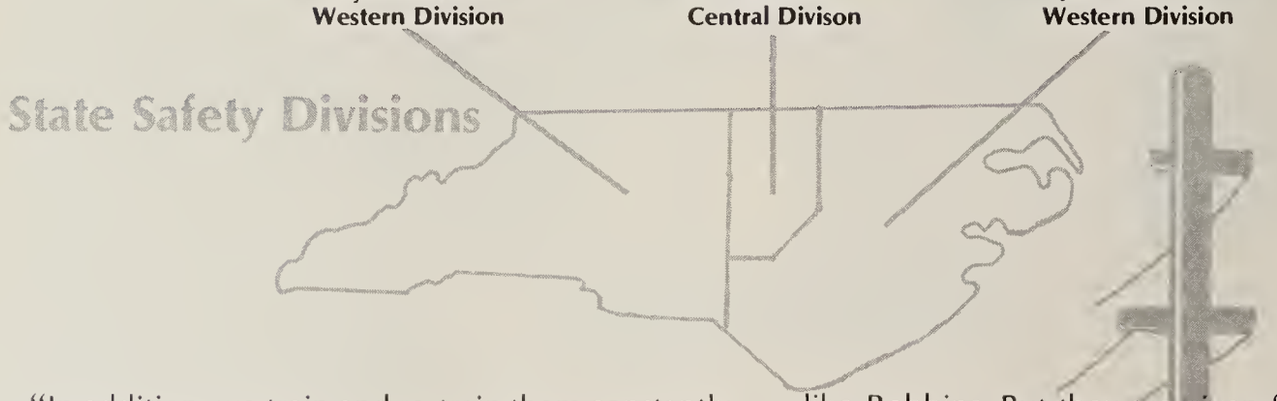
All EMC's facilities must also meet strict safety standards and detailed accident records must be maintained.

Despite the tough standards, Willis expects at least two more EMCs to be added to the accredited list during 1979.

Kyle Roberts
Western Division

Art Willis
Central Divison

John Brothers
Western Division



"In addition, we train and re-train them constantly in the proper procedures to use to minimize their on-the-job risks. In fact, many of them sometimes complain about the safety meetings, rules and inspections."

But the unrelenting bombardment with safety messages never stops because even the veteran lineman can "backslide" — and, in his work, that can lead to serious injury or death.

In effect, Willis added, the safety specialists and coordinators become the employees' "safety conscience," keeping them alert to the potential dangers involved in not following standard operating procedures.

"Nobody likes acting like policemen, but that's what we have to do," Willis said. "There's no way around it. We've got to make sure that things are always as they should be."

Willis Robbins, manager of member, public and safety services for Davidson EMC, Lexington, said it's easy to tell when his cooperative began a full-fledged safety program — that's when the number of accidents began to drop.

"We've certainly had a lot fewer accidents and a lot fewer serious accidents since our people have had safety on their minds," Robbins said. "It's made a big difference. Another thing that the safety program has done is improve our communications all the way from top to bottom. We had to make a path for our safety program. And when we did, other things came through too."

Davidson EMC is proud of its performance on safety, having logged more than six years since the co-op has suffered a lost-time accident — and constant preaching on safety is part of the reason, Robbins said.

Constant preaching about safety is necessary, he added, because "it keeps your mind on it. You've just go to do it."

Most of the burden of keeping a modern employee safety program in motion falls on local coordinators like Robbins. But they are given frequent assistanc from the state association's specialists. Willis, wh directs the program out of the N.C. A.E.C. Raleig headquarters, also serves as field specialist for fou Central North Carolina EMCs, including one with separate district office.

John Brothers of Greenville is field specialist for 1 EMCs, including nine district offices in the easter area, while Kyle Roberts of Lenoir handles that dut for nine EMCs, including 17 district offices in th western area.

Willis Robbins, manager of member, public an safety services for Davidson EMC, Lexington, said it easy to tell when his cooperative began a full-fledge safety program — that's when the number accidents began to drop.

In addition to coordinating training, inspection and accreditation efforts, the Job Training and Safet Specialists also assist local EMCs in meetin requirements of the Occupational, Safety and Healt Administration.

That alone can often be "quite a job," Willis saic

Meanwhile, the consultants oversee a series c statewide technical training courses for linemer staking technicians and servicemen, as well as speci workshops and conferences. The training courses ar offered at Wayne Community College in Goldsbor and Caldwell Community College near Lenoir.

The most distasteful task assigned to the specialis is that of investigating an accident after an employe has been injured or killed.

"We try to find out how it happened and why, Willis said. "Then we make an effort to see that simil incidents don't occur in the future. And we use wh we learn in training sessions with employees to ca attention to what can happen on the job. dramatizes as nothing else can the danger many c them are exposed to every day — and the importanc of safety precautions." □

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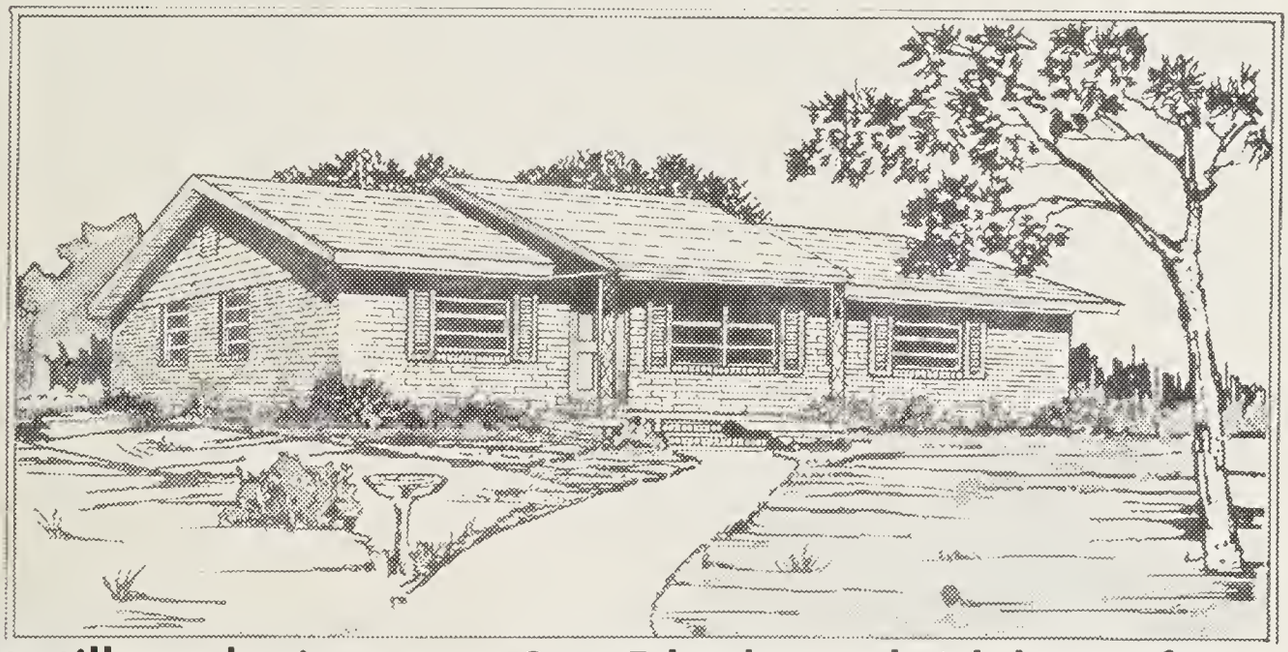

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Southern Farm Show Set For Feb. 1-3

Swine housing, marketing services, calculators — these are just some of the things that make today's farmers work, and you can learn more about agricultural subjects like these while also seeing the latest in farm equipment and supplies at the 1979 Southern Farm Show, Feb. 1-3, at the North Carolina State Fair Grounds in Raleigh.

The three-day event features seminars, forums, the latest equipment, supplies and methods and livestock shows and sales.

All the seminars will be held in the Gov. W. Kerr Scott Building and are being coordinated through the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University and the N.C. Department of Agriculture.

The schedule for the seminars runs like this:

Thursday, Feb. 1 — 10 a.m., Agrichemical Forum, Swine Housing; 11 a.m., Dairy Management, Tobacco Farming; 2 p.m., Irrigation, Marketing Services of NCDA.

Friday, Feb. 2 — 9 a.m., Agrichemical Forum, Swine Housing; 11 a.m. Swine Management, Irrigation; 2 p.m., Tobacco Farm Management; 3 p.m. Beef Management.

Saturday, Feb. 3 — 10 a.m., Energy Conservation, Tax Changes Affecting Agriculture; 11 a.m. Individual Water and Waste Water Management, Present and Future Role of Calculators.

In addition to the seminars, a special Farm Credit Forum, sponsored by the Farm Credit Banks, will be held each day from 11 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Jim Graham Building.

The show will also feature the 7th Annual N.C. Holstein Association's Classic Sale from noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 1. The 3rd Annual Angus Association's Breeders Show and Sale will be held Feb. 2, with the show held at 10 a.m. and the sale at 1 p.m.

More than 200 national and regional companies will feature the latest in everything — from silow to materials handling equipment to two-way communications systems.

Show hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Admission is by complimentary ticket.

For free tickets and additional show information, call or write Southern Farm Show, 1945 Randolph Road, Charlotte, NC 28207. Telephone (704) 376-6594. □

Handy Manual Offers 200 Tips For Saving Energy In The Home

A handy 102-page manual is available which outlines for the home or apartment dweller, as its title says, "200 Ways to Save on Energy in the Home — and Still Be Comfortable."

The book, by George B. Roscoe who recently retired after 27 years as editor and publisher of *Electrical Contractor*, estimates possible annual savings of $625 to around $4,000, depending on the number of tips a reader is able to apply and other variable conditions.

The author says he bases his data on consumption and savings estimates by the U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Trade Commission, Edison Electric Institute and other private sources. The illustrated paperback volume includes metric conversion an other tables, a glossary of technic terms and a three-page index.

Chapters deal with design an siting; construction; insulatio heating, cooling and water heatin equipment; cooking; appliance fireplaces; saving water, an monitoring energy use.

The book, priced at $4.95, available from the publishe Acropolis Books Ltd., 2400 17th St N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. □

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Books

Child Safety Is No Accident **by Dr. Jay M. Arena and Miriam Bachar. Duke University Press. 292 pages. $10.95.**

Health care professionals from Duke University and the University of North Carolina have collaborated on this first rate health guide. They are Jay M. Arena, M.D., a well-known Duke physician, and Miriam Bachar, M.A., who works in the Maternal and Child Health Department at the Chapel Hill campus.

If you have been looking around for a high quality, exhaustive family health guide, they've written just the book for you. While the title addresses itself to "Child Safety," there is something here for everyone — including such fundamental steps as questions you should ask, information you should have ready and other steps when you contact your physician in an emergency.

Good safety information is included, such as ways adults unwittingly put children in danger. Household substances that are poisionous, together with such wild menaces as poison oak, ivy or sumac, harmful toys, swimming pools — with their slides and diving boards — power mowers, camping and hiking areas and the multifold other menaces that can affect any of us are all covered. The family automobile is not omitted.

In addition, the book describes the traditional artificial respiration, the newer mouth-to-mouth technique, ways to induce vomiting (for certain poisons) and first aid treatment for mild or severe burns.

The final pages of the book have a chart that refers to specific sections that describe treatment for a variety of emergency measures.

While well writen and illustrated by useful photographs and drawings, this is not a book that you get simply to read. Nor is it one that you'd want to get from your friendly neighborhood library.

No, this is a book that is invaluable for you and your whole family. You want to buy your own copy, read it and encourage others to do so, and then keep it in a very handy place. Not just with the other books around the house.

—Frank Jeter, Jr.

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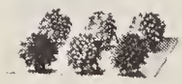

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Energy Act Sets Framework For Reducing Oil Imports

The National Energy Act has been passed by the Congress after nearly 18 months of deliberation, and signed by President Carter.

The act consists of five bills on the subjects of energy conservation, power plants and industrial fuel use, utility regulation, natural gas and energy tax.

The purpose of the act, according to the Department of Energy, is "to put into place a policy framework for decreasing oil imports by (1) replacing oil and gas with abundant domestic fuels in industry and electric utilities; (2) reducing energy demand through improved efficiency; (3) increasing production of conventional sources of domestic energy through more rational pricing policies and (4) building a base for the development of solar and renewable energy sources."

The bill has been depicted as a skeleton of what President Carter had sought, and its ability to achieve hoped-for goals on a national basis may be debatable. However, there is no doubt that it will have considerable impact on individuals, utilities and other businesses, and this may add up to significant national impact.

The Department of Energy summary (just the summary, not the act) of the new act covers more than 40 pages. Here are examples of what the act provides:

Energy conservation:

- $100 million is provided to support loans of up to $8,000 for residential solar heating and cooling equipment.
- $5 billion is provided for federally-supported home improvement loans related to energy conservation.
- Energy efficiency standards are to be set for major home appliances including freezers, refrigerators, washers, dryers, water heaters, air conditioners, ranges, furnaces, dishwashers and TV sets.
- Gas guzzler tax is authorized for low mileage cars.
- There is even a provision for an assessment of the conservation potential of bicycles.

Public utility regulation policies:

- Eleven voluntary standards on rate design and other utility practices are provided for consideration by states. Included are time-of-day rates, seasonal rates, cost of service pricing, rates for interruptible service, and the residential insulation and energy conservation measures, up to $300 or 15% of the first $2,000 expended.
- Non-refundable income tax credit for solar or wind equipment. Maximum credit of $2,200 on $10,000 installation.
- Exemption of gasohol from the federal excise tax.
- Tax incentive for development of geothermal resources.
- Refund of excise taxes for gasoline used in motorboats and other off-road uses is ended.
- A variety of tax credits for investment by business is provided, including (except for utilities) those for solar and wind equipment.

Power plant and industrial fuel use:

- Oil and gas prohibited in new generating plants and industrial boilers with heat output of more than 10 million BTU per hour.
- $800 million is provided to assist utilities to raise money for pollution control.
- No switches from oil to gas.
- Natural gas use for generating electricity to end by 1990, with few exceptions.
- Funding is provided for several programs to reduce negative impact of increased coal production. This will include some railroad rehabilitation.

Provisions of the act will be carried out by a number of state and federal government units.

States, for example, will handle grants for energy conservation programs in schools and hospitals.

Loans and loan guarantees may fall into several categories and be handled by different units, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Farmers Home Administration and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. □

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Country Kitchen

CRANBERRY-NUT COFFEE CAKE

Mrs. Pelon's Cranberry-Nut Coffee Cake recipe is a great coffee hour treat. Served with coffee or hot tea, its tart, yet sweet cranberry-nutty flavor is sure to please the most selective of cooks.

A sure way to beat the January shivers.

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: COUNTRY KITCHEN, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611. We pay $5 for published recipes.

COUNTRY KITCHEN RECIPE
Submitted by Mrs. Fran Pelon of Raleigh

CRANBERRY-NUT COFFEE CAKE

1/4 c. brown sugar
1/2 c. chopped walnuts
1/4 t. cinnamon

Mix together and set aside.

2 c. Bisquick
2 T. sugar
1 egg
2/3 c. water or milk

Combine and beat 1/2 minute and spread in a greased and floured 9x9 pan.

Sprinkle with nut mixture. Spoon 1-8 oz. can cranberry sauce over top. Bake at 400 degrees for 20-25 minutes. While warm, drizzle with icing of 1 c. confectioners' sugar, 1/2 t. vanilla and about 1 T. water.

1979 Program Preference Ballot

For the fourth year the UNC-TV Network is seeking input from viewers on the selection of programs which are available through the Station Program Cooperative (SPC). The SPC, coordinated by the Public Broadcasting Service, is the process where the Network purchases the majority of its national programming. This year the Network has available approximately $200,000 to pruchase national programs.

Below is a listing of these programs. Following each program are numbers indicating the number of programs in each series, the length of the individual programs and the cost of those programs to the Network. Please indicate your preference by checking either the YES column (would watch) or the NO column (would not watch). All preference ballots should be returned to: Preference Ballot, Box 1088, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 by Monday, Jan. 18, 1979 for tabulation. Thanks!

YES NO

___ ___ AT THE TOP 13/60 min. $1889. Jazz performance series.

___ ___ AUSTIN CITY LIMITS 13/60 min. $3058. Progressive country music.

___ ___ BEGIN WITH GOODBYE 6/30 min. $1980. Series to help people cope with loss.

___ ___ BILL MOYERS' JOURNAL 26/30 min. $16,490. Weekly series focusing on issues, personalities and events.

___ ___ THE BODY IN QUESTION 13/60 min. $5920. Focus on medical and health issues.

___ ___ CONGRESSIONAL OUTLOOK 26/20 min. $8656. Look at legislation facing Congressional action.

___ ___ CONSUMER SURVIVAL KIT 26/30 min. $5187. Consumer information.

___ ___ CROCKETT'S VICTORY GARDEN 26/30 min. $3251. How to garden indoors and out.

___ ___ DANCING DISCO 8/30 min. $1302. Disco dance instruction.

___ ___ THE DICK CAVETT SHOW 200/30 min. $19,000. Nightly talk show.

___ ___ EVENING AT POPS 12/60 min. $8381. Boston Pops perform classical and popular music.

___ ___ EVENING AT SYMPHONY 13/60-90 min. $9983. Concert performances by Boston Symphony Orchestra.

YES NO

___ ___ FEELING FREE 26/30 min. $11,505. Childrens' series about handicaps and disabilities.

___ ___ FILLERS, FILLERS, FILLERS 100/3 1/2 min. $3297. Short fillers based on special moments in time.

___ ___ FIRING LINE 46/60 min. $6896. Interviews with William F. Buckley.

___ ___ GREAT PERFORMANCES 25/various $38,000. Dance, drama, music and opera performances.

___ ___ GRIN AND REPAIR IT 29/30 min. $2811. Home repair and remodeling demonstrations.

___ ___ HOLLYWOOD TELEVISION THEATRE ENCORE 10/various $2077. Repeats of original productions.

___ ___ I'LL DO IT 65/30 min. $9912. Series stimulating creative involvement of children.

___ ___ IN CONCERT AT THE PALACE AND THE BIG BAND EXPO 13/60-90 min. $2957. Contemporary music.

___ ___ LILIAS, YOGA AND YOU 260/30 min. $2685. Hatha Yoga exercises, philosophy and nutrition.

___ ___ LIVE FROM WOLF TRAP 5/2 hr. $4996. Summer performances from National Park.

(over)

YES NO

___ ___ THE MACNEIL/LEHRER REPORT 260/30 min. $35,000. In-depth reports on major news events.

___ ___ MARK RUSSELL COMEDY SPECIALS 5/30 min. $1466. Satire on political establishment.

___ ___ MEDIA PROBES 10/30 min. $5850. Media: how it works, who makes it, how it effects us all.

___ ___ MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD REVISED 485/30 min. $11,522. Original programs plus 25 new episodes.

___ ___ THE MOSCOW PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: A MEMPHIS CONCERT 1/90 min. $279. Presentation of special performance.

___ ___ NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA ANIMATION 13/30 min. $2487. Humorous and serious animated films.

___ ___ 1979 DRUM CORPS INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION 1/4-1/2 hr. $719. Live coverage of event.

___ ___ NOVA 20/60 min. $29,850. Developments and issues in science and technology.

___ ___ OMNIBUS 6/60 min. $2786. Music, art, drama, comedy and intrigue.

___ ___ OVER EASY 65/30 min. $24,073. Targeted to needs and concerns of Americans over 55.

___ ___ THE PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA 1/90 min. $1322. Highlights of five city tour.

___ ___ THE PHOTO SHOW 13/30 min. $446. How to take and develop photos.

YES NO

___ ___ RUNNING THE SHOW 12/30 min. $4000. Profiles of successful minority persons.

___ ___ SESAME STREET 130/60 min. $25,400. Pre-school education.

___ ___ SNEAK PREVIEWS 24/30 min. $3226. Preview of current theatrical movies.

___ ___ SNEAK PREVIEWS - TAKE 2 12/30 min. $1712. Movie genres, issues and ideas.

___ ___ SOUNDSTAGE 12/60 min. $4118. Contemporary music.

___ ___ SPECIAL EVENTS $5000. Coverage of major national news events and developments.

___ ___ STUDIO SEE 13/30 min. $3174. Young teen lifestyles magazine.

___ ___ TURNABOUT 26/30 min. $7338. Series looking at changes in the American scene.

___ ___ WALL STREET WEEK 52/30 min. $4174. Stock market and economic report.

___ ___ WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW 52/30 min. $3926. Analysis of important national events.

___ ___ WORLD 13/60 min. $8754. Films challenging the way we see the world.

___ ___ WORLD SOCCER 39/90 min. $4983. Weekly coverage of major international soccer matches

___ ___ ZOOM 55/30 min. $5750. Blend of old ZOOM and new ZOOM segments.

State Offers Free Energy Workshop

A two-hour traveling workshop detailing the latest in conservation measures for the home, including the use of alternate energy forms such as wood and solar, is ready for presentation to any Tar Heel group willing to listen.

It was put together over the last few months by the state Commerce Department's Energy Division and comes complete with a director and plenty of publications — all for free.

John Manuel, a division residential specialist, will direct the workshop. He said state energy experts have rated it as a top flight informational program.

"We think it's pretty much the latest update," Manuel said. "It has been written specifically for North Carolina, and that makes a difference."

The workshop presentation includes slide shows on conservation, solar and wood narrated by Manuel. Included among the publications used during the workshop is a "do-it-yourself home energy audit booklet" that Manuel says can be very valuable to homeowners. Using it will allow homeowners to get down to specifics about their own home concerning conservation, he said.

The workshop is available to any civic group or organization and can be reserved by contacting Manuel at 733-4492 or on the Energy toll-free Hotline at (800)-662-7131. The workshop materials are also available for loan if an organization wants to make the presentation on its own.

"We're basically open to structure it to what somebody wants," Manuel said.

The workshop is part of a conservation project begun last year. □

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Two EMCs Get Loans For Expansion Projects

Two North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations have secured loans totaling more than $8.3 million to make planned electric system improvements and prepare for an anticipated influx of about 4,500 new members on their lines by the end of the decade.

South River EMC, Dunn, is borrowing $2.4 million from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) and an additional $1 million from the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC), a lending institution serving about 800 co-ops across the country. The cooperative plans to add 220 miles of distribution line, nine miles of transmission line, additional substation facilities and other various improvements.

Cooperative leaders expect an additional 2,700 consumers to be added to the lines by 1980.

When the work is completed and the new consumers added, the cooperative will be serving nearly 23,500 members over 3,443 miles of line in Harnett, Cumberland, Sampson, Bladen and Johnston counties.

Randolph EMC, Asheboro, is borrowing $3.4 million from REA and $1.5 million from CFC. The cooperative plans to rebuild or add 111 miles of distribution line, 17 miles of transmission line and other improvements including substation facilities. EMC officials expect to add more than 1,700 new members by 1980.

When the expansion work is completed and the new members added, the co-op will be serving more than 17,800 consumers over 2,572 miles of line in Randolph, Alamance, Chatham, Montgomery and Moore counties. □

Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation, which serves about 12,000 member-consumers in Union, Anson, Richmond, Montgomery, Scotland, Moore and Stanly Counties, has moved into a spacious new headquarters building on Highway 52 south of Wadesboro. More than 250 persons, including several area governmental officials, toured the 9,000-sq.-ft. building and accompanying 10,000-sq.-ft. storage and warehousing building during an open house held last month. The complex took more than a year to build. Manager H. H. McKinney said the new facilities are certain to improve operating efficiency by providing more room and allowing the consolidation of storage and warehousing. Plans call for the old building on East Morgan Street in Wadesboro to be sold.

A five-minute, weekly news program devoted entirely to the activities of the 1979 North Carolina General Assembly is now being broadcast by a statewide network of 49 radio stations, with sponsorship by the state's Electric Membership Corporations.

The program, titled "Legislative Review," is broadcast each Sunday afternoon. In it, veteran Raleigh newsman Fred Taylor recaps activities of the General Assembly during the previous week and examines issues expected to come before the body in the weeks ahead.

"We also expect the program to include a heavy emphasis on interviews with legislators and state government officials," said James Lee Burney, director of public affairs for the statewide EMC organization, who made arrangements for the radio feature.

Taylor, who has covered the legislature for several years fo Raleigh's WRAL-TV and the Nort Carolina News Network, produce the weekly series especially for th N.C. Association of Electri Cooperatives.

The program will be aire throughout the 1978 Genera Assembly session, with a wrap-u segment planned for the Sunda following the close of the sessio

The stations which carry th newscast, and the schedule broadcast times, are listed below

Statewide Radio Network to Ai 'Legislative Review,' Weekly Newscas

STATION/TIME	STATION/TIME	STATION/TIM
Asheboro	**Lexington**	**Roxboro**
WCSE — 12:30 p.m.	WBUY — 12:30 p.m.	WRXO — 12:30 p.m
WGWR — 6:00 p.m.	**Lenoir**	**Shallotte**
Asheville	WJRI — 12:45 p.m.	WVCB — 12:30 p.m
WWNC — 1:00 p.m.	**Marshall**	**Sanford**
Boone	WMMH — 1:15 p.m.	WWGP — 7:00 p.m
WATA — 12:30 p.m.	**Monroe**	**Scotland Neck**
Clinton	WMAP — 12:30 p.m.	WYAL — 12:30 p.m
WRRZ — 12:30 p.m.	**Morehead City**	**Statesville**
Concord	WMBL — 12:30 p.m.	WFMX — 12:30 p.m
WEGO — 12:30 p.m.	**Mount Airy**	**Sylva**
WPEG — 12:30 p.m.	WPAQ — 5:10 p.m.	WRGC — 1:30 p.m
Dunn	**Murfreesboro**	**Tarboro**
WCKB — 5:24 p.m.	WWDR — 12:30 p.m.	WCPS — 1:15 p.m
Elizabethtown	**New Bern**	**Valdese**
WBLA — 1:00 p.m.	WHIT — 6:20 p.m.	WSVM — 1:55 p.m
Elizabeth City	**Raleigh**	**Wadesboro**
WGAI — 12:30 p.m.	WRAL-FM — 12:55 p.m.	WADE — 12:30 p.m
Fairmont	**Red Springs**	**Warsaw**
WFMO — 1:00 p.m.	WYRU — 12:30 p.m.	WTRQ — 12:30 p.m
Farmville	**Roanoke Rapids**	**Wanchese**
WFAG — 12:30 p.m.	WCBT — 12:30 p.m.	WOBR — 12:30 p.m
Fayetteville	**Rockingham**	**Washington**
WFNC — 4:30 p.m.	WAYN — 12:30 p.m.	WITN — 12:30 p.m
Gastonia		**Waynesville**
WGAS — 5:25 p.m.		WHCC — 12:55 p.m
Goldsboro		**West Jefferson**
WGBR — 1:05 p.m.		WKSK — 5:10 p.m
Hickory		**Whiteville**
WHKY — 3:00 p.m.		WENC — 12:30 p.m
Jacksonville		**Wilson**
WRCM — 12:30 p.m.		WGTM — 12:55 p.m
Kinston		**Winston Salem**
WRNS — 12:35 p.m.		WSJS — 12:55 p.m
WFTC — 12:35 p.m.		WTQR — 5:45 p.m

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1978 Name Brand Products

Wood Stoves:

A WARM NOSTALGIA

By Vivian Johnson Bollin

Those wood burning stoves that are so in vogue now may cause some to wax nostalgic for the past, but for me they bring back — all too clearly — the winters endured by many Southerners, as recently as 30 years ago.

I suspect President Carter looks cobra-eyed when he talks about a future of fuel shortages because he, too, is remembering the winters of his own childhood. Anyone over 50, who grew up in a small Southern town knows the only warm place, during the cold months, was the schoolhouse. It was a common practice for teachers to thaw out sniffling children atop steaming radiators. Many of those frostbitten students had walked for miles, a few having missed the school bus — probably as a result of spending too much time folding those loose Union suit legs in a futile effort to make them appear less conspicuous under stockings or tucked under shoe tops.

In Wilkesboro, my hometown, most of the houses were large wooden structures with rambling porches and interiors with fifteen-foot ceilings — built with hot summers in mind. In winter, only one room was heated.

Even our leading citizen, Mr. Charles Cowles, ex-congressman and grandson of Governor Holden, holed up in the library of the family mansion.

Oh, there were fireplaces, usually in the parlor, but these were only used for special occasions — such as the meeting of Mama's Missionary Society.

Opening up the "Company Room" for these Baptist ladies saved the life our mongrel puppy. On one occasion Kazan, named for the canine hero of James Oliver Curwood's novels, had been accidentally shut up in that cold, dark, shuttered room after he followed baby sister to the piano. She was retrieving a piece of Juicy Fruit gum she'd stuck on the piano leg back in August.

And bathing — that was something to be put off but not for long. Clean was in. Small fry were scrubbed after supper, in the kitchen — still warm from the big cooking stove. The smell of leftover gingerbread and stale, rancid cracklins (roasted pig skins) drifted from the warming closets to mingle with steam and Ivory soap. This concoction, hardly conducive to romance, could be sniffed in the front hall by waiting suitors on any Saturday night.

The older members of the family braved a bathroom (after pipes were thawed) heated by a portable kerosene heater that either sputtered and went out, or overheated and danced wildly around the room while the tub's occupant cowered in terror.

The funny thing about all this was our innocence. We truly believed that, of all the people living in the USA, we were the warmest in winter.

I remember well my departure as a 1945 warbride for my new home in Northwest Iowa. My train pulled out of the station amid shouts of advice, from worried relatives, on how to cope in "that dreadful country until you are acclimated" only to find my in-laws — everyone else worth their salt living in centrally heated houses that were as warm as toast.

I was surprised but did not let down the side to those smug snug-as-a-bug-in-a-ruggers. Not even when I saw their brightly painted, spotless basements that were warmed by monster gas furnaces . . . polished to the nines. (Sitting Bull never had a chance against those scrub-happy Dutch.)

This area of the house was used for hanging laundry in winter, on lines straight as arrows. The men gathered there on Saturday nights to play pinochle and drink beer.

I thought about cellars all over the South — those room-size dugouts used for storing geraniums, maiden ferns and sprouting potatoes. And, as for laundry, we waited for warm days. My grandmother always had Queen Ester Brown, the town's wash woman, drape underwear over giant boxwoods, in case a gentleman came upon the scene. Clothes lines were too bourgeois. If we drank anything on Saturday night, it was ginger tea, warmed on the heatrola. This refreshment was 100 proof Wilkes County sugar head whiskey seasoned with a dab of brown sugar and a sprinkle of ginger — good for warding off colds and sore throats.

Well, now I am, once again, living in a small Southern town, this time wallowing in sixty-eight degree heat hearing those cries of protest coming from the North, when even a teensy hint is dropped by Louisiana and Mississippi they might keep their oil and gas for home consumption, brings to mind Appomatox . . . ALL that groveling for a few mules.

So, if worse comes to worse, let those stalwart Yankees huddle before coal grates or romantic wood fires — we have done our stint!

Vivian Johnson Bollin of Sparta is a free-lance writer who serves as a correspondent for the *Winston Salem Journal.*

Some Regulation's OK—But Not Too Much

Richard Elkin is a member of the North Dakota Public ervice Commission, counterpart of our Colorado Public Jtilities Commission, although with somewhat different esponsibilities.

He is also president of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Speaking to the rural electric regional meeting in Denver ecently, Elkin noted that $3 out of each $10 on *your* electric ill is caused by legislation spawned in Washington, D.C. He laced most of the blame on bureaucrats who translate laws nto rules and regulations and used as an example the Mined Land Reclamation Act (of recent vintage) which has lready resulted in *500 pages* of regulations.

This dovetails nicely with testimony presented recently y Colorado-Ute Electric Association to the state gislature's Interior Committee on Air Pollution. The *direct* ost of evironmental regulation at the Craig Station Units 1 nd 2 to be completed in 1979 is estimated to be 45 percent f the total cost of generation! To state it another way, the osts at Craig would be only 55 percent as great if all nvironmental costs were removed.

Obviously, no one advocates complete elimination of nvironmental regulatons; only those which are not cost fective and helpful.

Electric utilities are only one business impacted by rdensome regulation. While President Carter's tentions are good in the anti-inflation effort, I am pessimistic about the effectiveness of his guidelines so long as a burgeoning bureaucracy continues to crank out more rules and regulations.

The regulatory agencies, according to the *Wall Street Journal*, are already joining forces to do battle with the President as he attempts to monitor regulation and tries to control its inflationary impact. This may boil down to a fight over who runs the government — the President or the agencies. Heaven help us if the agencies prevail.

commentary

The *Journal* notes that Washington University's Murray L. Weidenbaum, a leading student of federal regulation, estimates its total cost in 1976 at over $66 billion. That is the equivalent of one-third of all private investments in new plants and equipment that year!

I would venture to say that the 1977 and 1978 figures will be much greater, and thus much more severe in impact on the American citizen's pocketbook.

It is incumbent upon all of us as taxpayers and citizens to get into the action on this critical issue. In my view, each of us needs to let our elected representatives know that we have just about as much regulation as we can stand — perhaps more — and that we want something done about it.

—Dick Easton
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HUD Experiment Set

Will Use Three Channels For Tar Heel Local Government Grants

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has become the second major federal agency to agree to begin tailoring its funding programs to fit North Carolina's "balanced growth" efforts across the state.

In addition HUD will spend $340,000 over the next two years in an experiment to determine whether it should be funneling its funding programs through the state, an area-wide planning agency or directly to the local governments. A similar experiment will also be conducted in the state of Washington.

HUD pours about $300 million in federal funds into the state each year.

The agreement gives state officials the leeway they need to pursue a plan to coordinate future growth across the state. Officials reached a similar agreement last November with the Farmers Home Administration.

Both agreements are unprecedented. They were sought by state leaders who believe that by determining which areas of the state get federal loans and grants, future growth patterns can be directed to correct what they call "economic imbalances."

"It was felt that with the amount of money those departments were putting into the state, it would be good if we got a better handle on where the money was going," said Steve Meehan, public affairs director of the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

The two-year funding experiment was recommended recently by the Task Force on Rural and Non-Metropolitan Areas which was appointed a year ago by HUD Secretary Patricia Harris to find ways to help the agency better spend its money.

"This program represents several important shifts on the part of the federal government," Gov. Hunt said. "It shows that Washington realizes that just pouring money into urban areas is not the only way to solve cities' problems — that we need to keep small communities strong and viable to reduce pressure on cities, and keep our own unique quality of life. We are a state of large population and small communities. That's a great advantage — the potential strength of large population, combined with the benefits of not being crowded into two or three cities. We have the potential for a kind of balanced growth that can make us prosper for years to come."

HUD plans to give the state $120,000 to assist Hendersonville, Princeville, Pender County and Yancey County. The Neuse River Council of Governments will get $110,000 to organize an in-house rural development team to assist Beaufort, the Duplin County community of Greenevers, Mount Olive and Craven County.

The federal agency will send $36,000 each directly to Aurora and Bladen County. Boone and Watauga County, who submitted a joint application for funds, will get $38,000. HUD will provide direct technical assistance but provide no money to Gibsonville, Maxton and North Wildesboro. A five-member team of specialists, headed by Tom Lowe of HUD's Greensboro office, will work directly with the three communities.

"The purpose of the variety of funding methods is to determine whether HUD's funds and assistance are most effective when funneled through the state, an area-wide planning agency or directly to the local governments," said Russell Marane, HUD's Southeastern Regional Administrator.

The results of the experiment, as well as the results of the agreements on balanced growth, are expected to have national impact. □

Brighten Your New Year

Read The Magazine of Tar Heel Traditions, History and Travel

January. It's time for new beginnings and old traditions: New Year's resolutions and black-eyed peas with hog jowls. It's also a time for looking back — and for looking ahead.

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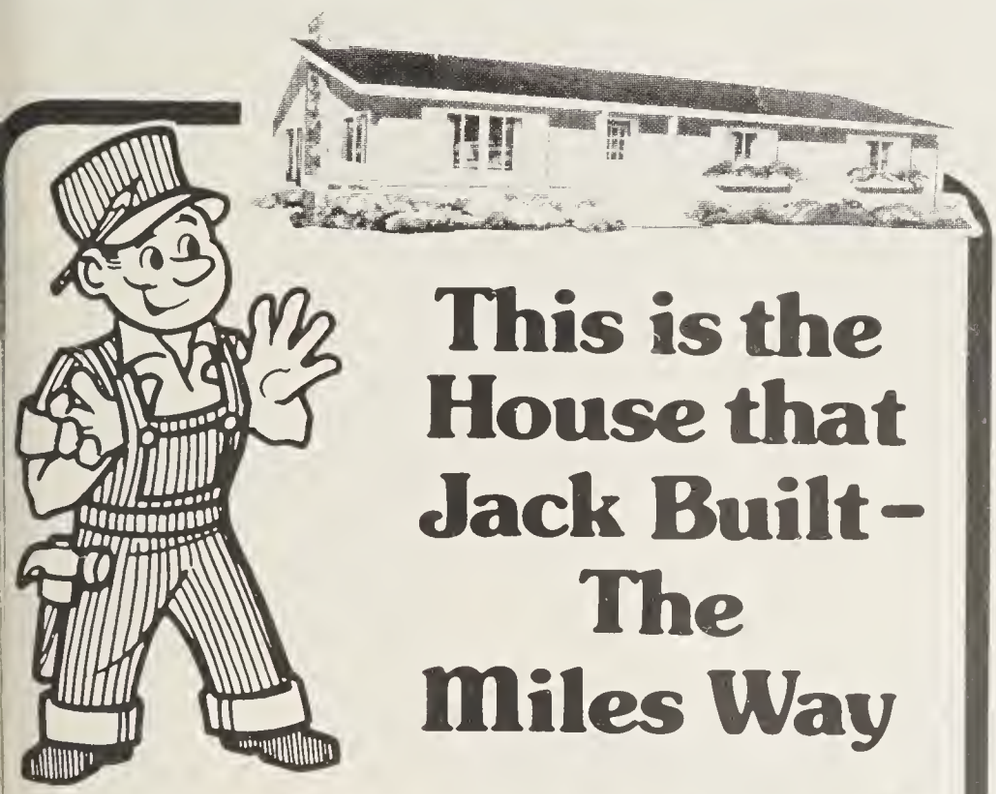

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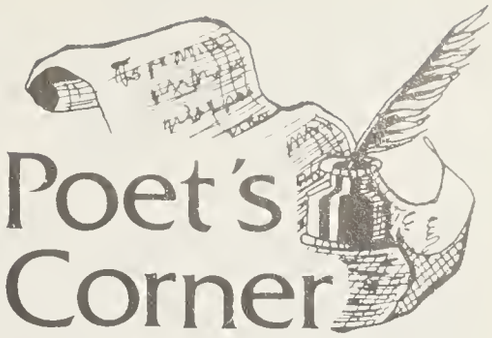


Poet's Corner

Retirement

To proud to cry: too frail
to stay the tears;

And caught between two nights
—death and years.

But, sole of soul! Who for a span
as he daily trod,

Turned the leaves of history
in the handiwork of immortal
God.

Forrest Robertson
Rutherfordton

The Old Saw Mill

The smell of fresh cut lumber has
long since seen its day.
The slab piles, here and there
have all turned shades of gray.

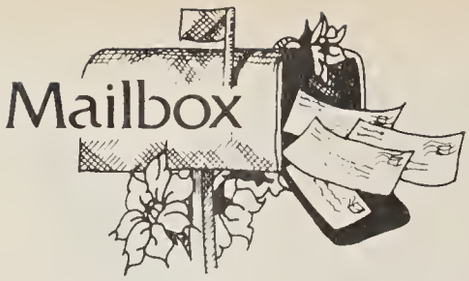
The big motor is quiet now,
there's no longer that
deafening roar.
The tracks have shifted all
around, the carriage won't
move anymore.

The gears are stuck, from not
being greased,
And the belts refuse to pull.
The saw teeth are too dull to cut,
the sawdust hole is full.

The roller bench is rusty, the
skids are falling down.
The sawdust pile, which once
stood tall,
is scattered on the ground.

The sawmill yard is empty,
where huge logs lay before.
The smell of fresh cut lumber,
won't be here anymore.

—Mrs. Gwen D. Vest
Rt. 1, West End



I have enjoyed your *Carolina Country* magazine while visiting at my birthplace in Ellenboro. The Country Kitchen recipes are good and I have enjoyed the poems. My mother enjoyed them, too, until she died this past May at 88 years old.

Mrs. F. C. Gettys
Livonia, Mich.

The cover of the September issue of *Carolina Country* was one of the most delightful you have used. I love the beautiful scenes of the mountains, plains and coast, but this one of action was to me one of the finest. And the "lassies" certainly are to be congratulated for their action and beauty.

Tate Brown
Rt. 3, Marion

Surely it must have occurred to you that 1) A higher ratio of supervisors of children (in a child care center) does not, per se, assure higher quality and 2) that maintaining a lower cost by not wasting money may be a way of making the service available to more people who would then be able to pay the charge — not necessarily an increase in profits. It seems to me that one has to be wary of editorial writers who gratituously find the motives of everyone to be suspect. Maybe that is the way they would do it if given the chance!

J. E. Peterson, Jr.
Greensboro

When I read "A Threshers Reunion," in the November *Carolina Country*, I thought back to the days of the wood shingles and lye soap. Yes, from the oxen to the moon and back in less than 50 years. I remember when church members were Christians, nobody locked their doors and no one had much to worry about.

After working and traveling 46 states, 37 countries and plenty of islands for 31 years, plus pleasures, hardships and many, many experiences I still look way back and think of the hard working times as the "Good Old Days."

J. D. Vance
Rt. 2, Stokesdale

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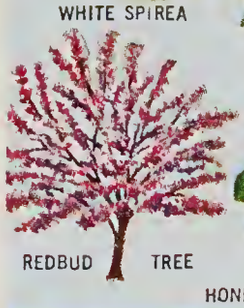
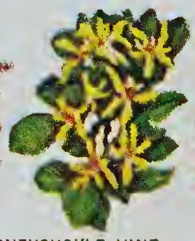

REDBUD TREE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